

## TESTING “DANGEROUS CONTACT FLOCKS” FOR AI STATUS

Following the detection of Avian Influenza, flocks that may have been exposed may be discovered during the epidemiological investigation. These flocks are labeled as “Dangerous Contact Flocks” and are required to undergo testing to determine their AI status.

The option of leaving dead birds at the end of the farm lane for swabbing by authorized personnel may be offered as an alternative to in-house collection and submission of swabs.

### TESTING REQUIREMENTS:

#### **Blood samples from live birds\*:**

- ❑ Collect blood samples from sixty (60) birds representative of the flock (from all areas of the house or cage banks). If there are fewer than 60 birds in the flock, collect samples from all birds.

#### **AND**

#### **Swab samples from dead or sick birds and/or live birds\*:**

- ❑ Collect tracheal/oropharyngeal swabs from sixty (60) birds representative of the flock (from all areas of the house or cage banks). If there are fewer than 60 birds in the flock, collect swabs from all birds\*\*.
- ❑ Take swab samples from any dead or sick birds first, and then swab other birds to collect 60 swabs. Swabs from live birds may be taken from the same birds as those from which blood samples were taken.
- ❑ Refer to the protocols for collection and submission of samples included in this plan.

\* All samples must be taken by an authorized FADD (foreign animal diseases) diagnostician associated with DEM, USDA, universities, or a laboratory.

\*\*Waterfowl: Cloacal swabs and virus isolation required